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Serving New Jersey's African-American Community Since 1983

July 24 - July 30, 1996

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NEWKERS EARN OVER 1 MILL IN NJAPC CONTRACT

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WORRY-FREE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TIPS

FLORHAM PARK—A record nine million Americans are expected to travel to Europe this year, with nearly five million people traveling during the summer, according to the AAA New Jersey Automobile Club.

"For many travelers, this may be their first experience in a foreign country," said Linda Mainardi, manager of the AAA Travel Agency in Florham Park. "Because of the variety of languages, currencies and surroundings, making your reservations with the help of an experienced travel agent is a must."

And once you made your travel arrangements, AAA's Mainardi offers the following tips for worry-free international travel:

- ✓ **Before departure**
- ✓ Review your insurance policies to determine if you're covered for trip cancellation or interruption, loss or theft, and accident or injury while traveling overseas. If necessary, purchase additional coverage.
- ✓ Leave copies of your passport identification page, credit card account numbers, travelers check numbers, airline tickets and itinerary with a friend or relative who is easily accessible by telephone. Travel with a copy of all the information noted above, plus a set of your passport photos.
- ✓ Purchase an International Driving Permit (IDP) if you'll be driving in a country where English is not the primary language spoken. Even if you won't be driving, an IDP is an excellent form of identification. IDPs can be purchased for \$10 at AAA branches and a membership isn't required.
- ✓ Carry travelers checks instead of carrying large amounts of cash. AAA members can purchase no-fee American Express Travelers Cheques at local offices.
- ✓ Place all medications in their original containers and store in carry-on bags. Verify that your medications don't violate foreign drug laws. Check with your doctor to determine if international certificates of vaccination are required for your destination.
- ✓ Reconfirm your flight with the airline 48 hours prior to departure.
- ✓ Make sure you arrive at the airport two hours prior to departure. International travelers must check in at the ticket counter where proper identification (a photo ID, your passport if required for your destination) will be examined.
- ✓ **Upon arrival**
- ✓ Be alert at all times. Keep your distance from luggage or packages left unattended at airports and other public places.
- ✓ Use an authorized money exchange outlet to purchase enough local currency to pay for arrival expenses such as taxis and tips. Most airports have 24-hour currency exchange windows.
- ✓ Use authorized airport and hotel taxis.
- ✓ Avoid those that pick up additional passengers enroute and only travel in a taxi with a meter.
- ✓ **At the hotel**
- ✓ Check-in time is usually 3 p.m. After a long flight, you may wish to reserve the

See TRAVEL TIPS/page 10

CHASE MANHATTAN FOUNDATION DONATES \$50,000 TO BURNED CHURCHES FUND

NEW YORK—The Chase Manhattan Foundation has contributed \$50,000 to the National Council of Churches for the Burned Churches Fund. According to bank officials, Chase recognizes that churches serve as an anchor to the community stabilization and a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization. As part of the bank's commitment to community reinvestment, Chase joins a host of concerned community leaders in providing immediate assistance to these important institutions in the communities the bank serves.

NEWARK SCHOOL PLAN GOES INTO EFFECT

Millions reallocated, 634 jobs slashed

by Terrence L. Dixon

NEWARK—The reorganization plan for the Newark public school system was announced on Friday, July 19 by Dr. Beverly Hall, State District Superintendent. As a result, \$26.3 million will be reallocated from 634 administrative jobs and administrative costs.

Under the new plan, new educational services will be provided, the central administration will be decentralized, school security will be increased, and school facilities will be restored.

"Newark's plan is a milestone event. It delivers on the promise to put children first by focusing on educational resources on students and on instruction," said Dr. Hall.

A statement released by the Commissioner of Education, Lou Kligholz, said, "I believe that this plan will result in many exciting new educational programs for the children of Newark beginning in September. This plan will put the children of Newark on the road to achieving academic excellence, for the first time in more than a generation, by redirecting as many resources as possible into classroom instruction."

With reference to the defunct Newark Board of Education, Dr. Hall explained, "Abysmally low student



Pictured at Friday's press conference to announce the new school plans for Newark are (l to r) Peter Contino, Barbara Anderson, assistant commissioner for the State Department of Education and Dr. Beverly Hall.

Photo by Henry Johnson

test scores annually gave witness to the district's abandonment of its responsibility to educate students."

She explained that the Newark Board of Education failed to prepare its students to be fully functioning members of the American society.

She pointed out that the Newark Board of Education had expense accounts at 32 restaurants, went on trips to conferences in Hawaii, used lap-

top computers, and cars were provided for individual members while students were subject to, according to an independent audit of the district, "Classes in buildings with crumbling ceilings, creaking, warped floors, overflowing sinks, inoperable toilets, exposed wires, and filthy grounds."

Gross inefficiencies
Dr. Hall said approximately \$26.3 million will be reallocated for educa-

tion from the elimination of several hundred administrative positions and what Dr. Hall describes as "gross inefficiencies."

A total of 634 individuals will be laid off which result in a seven percent reduction in administrative offices. The central office will be downsized by 30 percent or 124 positions, which will free \$6.3 million.

Efficiency measure to counteract waste will eliminate 406 positions, which will free \$86.8 million. "Reorienting" of schools by each principal will eliminate 122 non-teaching positions freeing up \$3.2 million dollars. And 22 non-budget authorized positions will be discontinued.

"Like a forest fire, change causes temporary pain. But, nature uses fire to prepare an old forest for a new life. In fact, without occasional rejuvenation, the forest could die," said Dr. Hall. "I have often observed that without making substantial changes to Newark's public education system, it is unrealistic to believe or hope that student achievement will substantially improve."

In addition, the school bus program, which costs \$220 per vehicle compared to the regional average of \$25-35 will eliminate 126 full-time bus

are paid 36 percent above the regional average will be reduced by eliminating 40 positions; and food service employees will gradually be reduced over the next years by 117 positions. Food service employees receive two weeks vacation, 12 holidays, 3 days for union meetings, 3 days for the NEA Convention, 6 administrative days, and 4 early dismissals.

Dr. Hall said career services for those laid off will be offered in conjunction with the Department of labor on a full-time basis for three months. Help with unemployment claims, pension issues, job search, résumé writing, interview skills, counseling, budgeting and management will be provided for the exclusive use of laid-off individuals.

Reallocations: What students will receive

The 26.3 million dollars will be received in the following manner:
✓ A full-day kindergarten will now be available to all primary and elementary students at a cost of \$3.5 million.

✓ Eighty-one security personnel will be hired for school safety at \$2.1 million. New alternative programs will be offered for students unable

See SCHOOL PLANS/page 10

City News Summer in the cities

by Kelly Howard

NEWARK—In the month of August, the *City News* team will hit the streets with newspapers in hand. As part of ongoing community-based activities, staffers will distribute free copies of *City News* at the African-American Street Festival to be held at PSE&G plaza in downtown Newark on August 2, 3, and 4.

City News is currently distributed in the Newark metropolitan area, including East Orange, Orange and Irvington; in Union County including Elizabeth and Plainfield; in Passaic County in Paterson; in Hudson County in Jersey City; and in shore townships of Asbury Park, Neptune, Red Bank and Neptune area.

"It is *City News* highlights news that is important to African Americans. It helps chronicle the history of African Americans in New Jersey—a history that speaks of achievements," says Jan Johnson, editor-in-chief of *City News* family of publications.

"We are an ambitious people, unlike the images frequently portrayed in other news sources. As a result, *CN* reflects the self-esteem, integrity and dreams of African Americans," Johnson continued.

Publishing weekly since 1983, *City News* features news about local community groups, churches,

people, businesses and youth. *City News* also serves as a showcase to the hundreds of thriving businesses in New Jersey's African-American communities with reasonable advertising rates.

"We think the positive feed back from the recently held 'City News 100 Most Influential' has provided even more visibility for our newspaper," says Mrs. Johnson.

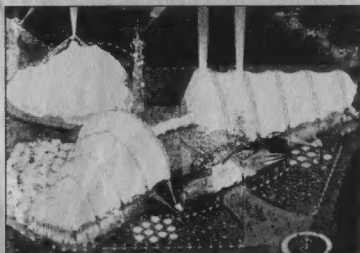
In upcoming months, *City News* will implement its plan to become a "full-service" newspaper, expanding the topics that we cover. We will be reaching out to civic, social, religious and business organizations to include information like wedding engagements, birth announcements, obituaries, and a church directory.

"Our campaign will focus on reaching out to get more individuals and organizations to submit their news and events to us for publication in *City News*," explains Publisher Henry C. Johnson, Ph.D.

City News is coming to your community:

- August 2, 3, 4—Newark
- August 6—East Orange & Orange
- August 8—Paterson
- August 13—Irvington
- August 14—Plainfield
- August 17—Plainfield

Atlanta's tarnished Olympics



The AT&T Olympic Village is only one of the many buildings built for the event.

ATLANTA—As thousands of athletes, millions of spectators and a large number of companies convene in Atlanta for the XXVIII Olympiad, the streets will appear to be paved with gold.

Along with athletes winning Olympic medals, money will be made by the city of Atlanta, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG), local businesses and over 400 sponsoring corporations, including AT&T, Coca-Cola, Kodak, and McDonald's. Yet thousands of Atlanta's African-American businesses and poverty-level-of families will be losing out on more than money. Many will or have already lost their places of residence or business to the sweeping wave of preparations for the Olympics.

As plans got under way in 1991 to prepare the city for the Centennial Olympics, space for all the buildings and sites on the agenda were being sought. A number of the areas that Olympic planners found as prime spots happened to be the housing projects of Techwood and Clark Howell.

To get that prime real estate, the Olympic committee, with the aid of Atlanta Housing Authority, proceeded to convince, buy, pressure and evict the residents of Techwood, Clark Howell and other housing authorities. Under the premise that they would be renovating them.

Under the current Olympic redevelopment, the Housing Authority's Doug Faust said, "more than 2,232

families will be displaced out of the [Olympic] Ring."

One program offered one way bus tickets to homeless people willing to promise never to return to Atlanta. Meanwhile, as tenants and the homeless get squeezed, corporations are moving in.

Reports are that Daimler-Benz, maker of Mercedes-Benz cars, knocked down two restaurants to open a hospitality center. The *New York Times* signed a deal to rent out an apartment complex, leaving nine tenants looking for new apartments. One of the residents was left homeless.

"The city as a whole will certainly benefit because its image will be enhanced and raised throughout the world," said Georgia state Rep. Tyrone

Brooks. "But when the Games and events are over, I really wonder if the African-American community will be better off," stated Brooks.

Another area affecting the African-American community is high-priced licenses and new rules that virtually shut them out of a share of the estimated \$2 billion that visitors will spend. The rules adopted by ACOG's board, immediately after Atlanta was named, prohibits any ACOG contracts with business owned by elected officials or those who have elected offices as officers or board members.

"People will be coming to Atlanta from all over the world, and they want black culture," said Larry T. Miller.

See TARNISHED OLYMPICS/page 10

Steele elected president as Paterson City Council reorganizes

by Michael Burton

PATERSON—At its annual reorganization meeting the Re. Alfred E. Steele, a councilman at large and a state assemblyman was selected president of the Paterson City Council. Steele replaces Son Rosendo, the former 3rd ward council representative and council president who did not seek reelection.

The reorganization meeting also

featured the arrival of two newly elected councilmen, Martin G. Barnes, 3rd ward representative, a former mayor candidate makes his return to the council after a two year absence. Barnes defeated Passaic County Freeholder Michael Adamo in a bitter race for Rosendo's seat in the May 14 election.

Jeffrey Jones, the first ward representative, made his debut after an upset defeat of incumbent Yousafa

Luna. Jones was given little chance in defeating Luna by a won in convincing fashion being the only councilman elected to defeat an incumbent.

Barnes, a former councilman at large and 4th ward councilman, stressed the need for unity so that things can get done in the city. "Unless we realize that the only way we can

See STEELE ELECTED PRESIDENT/page 10

Girl pushed through store window gets 16 stitches

by Terrence L. Dixon

NEWARK—In a burst of anger a couple of weeks ago, a woman allegedly pushed her 9-year-old daughter through a department store window in downtown Newark after discovering the girl had left a sock containing \$900 on a city bus.

According to Robin Preister, spokesperson for University Hospital, the girl received 16 stitches to her face. She was released the next day after being observed, treated for other

minor injuries, and tested for internal injuries. Otherwise, said Preister, the girl is in good condition.

Although the woman was arrested and charged with aggravated assault, Detective Sgt. Derek Glenn, spokesperson for Newark Police, says they are not going to speculate whether or not she actually pushed her daughter through the window intentionally.

To date, her bail has been set at \$15,000. "Police have no intention of releasing the woman's name to pro-

See GIRL PUSHED/page 10

PEOPLE

Community Calendar

FRIDAY, JULY 26

Monmouth County Park System school "Woods Hollow Classic" Mountain Bike Race at 6:45 a.m. For more info call 908-542-1942.

JULY 26 THRU 28

READINGTON—Lany Coryell, Marion Meadows and the Fantasy Band to perform at the Quick Chek New Jersey Festival Stationing. For more info call 1-800-HOTAIR-9.

SATURDAY, JULY 27

EATONTOWN—Nag Fort Discrimination in Monmouth County. Breakfast at 9 a.m. at Fort Monmouth Officers' Club. For more info call 908-229-9398.

PATERSON—"KISS-FM Radio Picnic" set for Pateron's Eastside Park from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more info call 201-296-5144.

NEW BRUNSWICK-PISCATAWAY—Rutgers Gardens will hold its 32nd annual open house from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more info call 908-932-8451.

THRU JULY 28

FREEHOLD—The 22nd Annual Monmouth County Fair will be held at East Freehold Park Showgrounds. For more info call 908-842-4000.

SUNDAY, JULY 28

TOTOWA—Crafts/leisure market dealers & classic owners invited to join United Way benefit at Brogan Cadillac Oldsmobile Company from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 201-770-0899.

JULY 28 THRU SEPTEMBER 15 CLINTON—Crafts of Hunterdon—Then & Now, an exhibit of antique and current crafts will be shown at Hunterdon Arts Center. For more info call 908-735-8415.

MONDAY, JULY 29

SCOTCH PLAINS—The Arc of Union County's Eighth Annual Golf Outing will be held at Shickamaxon Golf and Country Club. For more info call 908-754-7828.

THRU JULY 30

EAST ORANGE—The East Orange Farmers Market offers Jersey Fresh vegetables from the Garden State at City Hall Plaza Village from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every Tuesday. For more info call 201-266-0938.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication.

Dortch-Wright named to Dept. of Corrections board



PERTH AMBOY—Lillie Carol Dortch-Wright has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Department of Corrections, the Division of Youth Correctional Institution Complex, and the Board of Trustees. As a board member her responsibilities include, planning for the medical care, correctional, and training of inmates; maintaining general oversight of the correctional facilities; reviewing cases of parole for eligible inmates, and when appropriate, making recommendations to the Parole Board. She serves as public relations director, Bible education teacher, announcer and choir member at the Second Baptist Church, Perth Amboy.



Rider University, Don Johnson receive affirmative action awards

LAWRENCEVILLE—Don Johnson (c), director of human resources and affirmative action at Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ, accepts affirmative action recognition awards for both Rider and himself at the recent New Jersey Affirmative Action Officers' Council luncheon. Presenting the awards to Johnson are the Rev. Michael Nabors (2nd from l), president of the Trenton branch of the NAACP; Teresa Lockett (l), NAACP luncheon co-chair; Valerie L. Holman (2nd from r), NAACP chairperson, and L. A. Hernandez (r), luncheon co-chair. The awards were for outstanding contributions to the community for women minorities and the disabled.



Yamba signs articulation agreements with Kean College

UNION, NJ—Dr. Ramad Appiah (l), President of Kean College of New Jersey, and Essex County College President A. Zachary Yamba (r) sign 35 articulation agreements in a special ceremony held recently at Kean College's Alumni House, East Campus. The formalized agreements will facilitate the transfer of ECC students entering Kean. Officials from both colleges participated in the agreement that will allow ECC graduates to Kean with full junior-year status. The articulation agreements encompass a wide range of majors that include liberal arts, technology, and allied health and build on an already successful partnership between the two colleges.

Shirley Frazier named to GAA

PATERSON—Shirley Frazier has been elected a board member of the Gift Association of America (GAA). She is president of Sweet Survival, a retail consulting firm specializing in business development planning and implementation for the gift industry and works extensively with specialty shops, department stores, and gift basket professionals throughout the country. Frazier, the first African American to serve on the board, has taught classes at gift trade shows across the country and is the gift basket business editor for Fancy Food. She is the author of *Gift Baskets & Beyond: Fantastic Forms, Great Promotions, and Dazzling Ideas For Your Business*, *The Complete Gift Basket Industry Reference Directory*, and writes articles for several gift industry publications. Frazier also displays all-occasion gifts and baskets as a regular guest on the Television Food Network.



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Provocative...
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Karen Smyles
Host

Another view
The Public Affairs Program for the African American Community



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Need a mortgage or refinancing on a low to moderate income?

The Mighty Hudson can save you thousands of dollars.

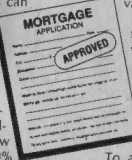
Hudson City Savings Bank has a long standing tradition of concern for the people in the communities it serves, including those with low to moderate incomes. This can now work to your advantage if you apply for your mortgage or refinancing at Hudson City Savings Bank.

The Mighty Hudson, New Jersey's largest savings bank, now offers qualified applicants special low rates. With as little as 10% down, you can borrow to a maximum of \$125,000 to purchase or refinance a 1 to 4 family owner oc-

cupied dwelling in one of the counties shown in the listing below. Private mortgage insurance (PMI) is required on loans over 80% of your appraised value.

To make it even easier to gain approval, Hudson City will apply less rigid qualifying standards and lack of an established credit history will not disqualify you—provided, of course, you can prove your credit worthiness and ability to repay the debt.

To apply, phone the Mortgage Origination Department at 201-967-1900 or 609-428-2740. Your new home may be just a phone call away!



TO QUALIFY, APPLICANT'S INCOME CANNOT EXCEED THE FIGURES LISTED BELOW FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PROPERTY YOU INTEND TO PURCHASE IS LOCATED.

Bergen	\$42,160	Monmouth	\$36,320
Burlington	33,120	Morris	39,520
Camden	33,120	Ocean	36,320
Essex	39,520	Passaic	42,160
Gloucester	33,120	Somerset	43,680
Hudson	28,240	Union	39,520
Middlesex	43,680	Warren	30,880

FROM NEW JERSEY — FOR NEW JERSEY

Hudson City Savings Bank

New Jersey's largest savings bank



NATION

National News at a Glance

NATIONAL CHURCH FIRES CONTINUE

Authorities have ruled a recent fire at a white church used by black missionaries in a Texas suburb as arson. This makes the total of church burnings well over 40 at NNPA press time.

Meanwhile, two volunteer fire fighters, one of whom is black, have been charged with burning black churches in Alabama and Texas, while two white teenagers accused of burning a Greensboro, NC white church said they did it for attention. Vice President Al Gore recently announced that the insurance industry will help find insurance for churches destroyed by the racial arsons. Gore made the announcement after a meeting with insurance industry officials. The insurance officials are offering a \$10,000 reward for information on the arsons. They also set up a toll-free insurance help line for the churches: 1-800-324-2805.

—WASHINGTON, DC.

NAACP: 'A NEW DAY BEGUN?'

The above headline was the theme for the NAACP's national convention, held recently in Charlotte, N.C. "This is a new day begun and I will fight until hell freezes over not to let anything divide us," said Kwesi Mfume, the group's president and CEO, to the members gathered. He replaced former executive director Benjamin Chavis, who was ousted because of financial impropriety. He and Myrlie Evers-Williams, who replaced the ousted William Gibson as national board chair, are the group's new leaders. But do old problems remain? As wrote the Associated Press: "Members from a dozen Midwestern states protested [during the convention] against Mfume's

See NEWS BRIEFS/ page 10

Andrew Young honored by UNICEF



Dr. Gwendolyn Calvert Baker (c), president and CEO of the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, presented the organization's annual "Africa's Future Award" to the Honorable Andrew Young (h), former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. Young is also Mayor of Atlanta, and Co-chair of the 1996 Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games. The award was presented at a ceremony and reception commemorating the sixth annual Day of the African Child on June 17. The day is held in honor of the tragic massacre of the school children of Soweto, South Africa in 1976. The Africa's Future Award recognizes the achievements of a prominent individual who has demonstrated a strong commitment to African and African-American children and issues. Pictured with Dr. Baker and Young is actor Laurence Fishburne, who was appointed a National Ambassador of the U.S. Committee for UNICEF. As an ambassador, Fishburne will help raise greater awareness and funds in the United States on behalf of children in impoverished countries.

Quote of the week

The impulse to dream had been slowly beaten out of me by experience. Now it surged up again and I hungered for books, new ways of looking and seeing.

—Richard Wright

International labor abuse—a real issue

from the National Rainbow Coalition

JAKARTA—On Thursday, July 18, Reverend Jackson and his delegation were in Indonesia, calling attention to the sweatshops that manufacture our sneakers and our apparel. And in a recent JaxFax, we highlighted the pitiful wage rates paid by Nike shoes to the women in Indonesia who make the sneakers that America wears. Nike, of course, is not alone.

- According to the AFL-CIO, Reebok pays Indonesian workers 16-20 cents an hour for a day-a-week, 10-hour shifts. Reebok has 20.5 percent of the U.S. market for athletic shoes, second to Nike.

- Gap T-shirts are made by teenage girls in El Salvador forced to work 18 hours a day in sweatshops, for about 16 cents a shirt.

- Some Neiman-Marcus designer fashions are made by immigrant Thai women imprisoned behind barbed wire in forced-labor conditions.

- Children in Pakistan, ages 14, work 10 hours a day, 6 days a week, make soccer balls and other athletic gear.

- The Washington Post this week put sweatshops and child labor in the "Style" section, interspersed among commentary about Kathie Lee Gifford's "pink and white suit with an above-the-knee skirt," "white patent slingbacks that had a sensible heel," and her "Chanel purse on a dainty shoulder chain." Since Ms. Gifford was on Capitol Hill discussing illegal sweatshops and child labor, after "human rights activists...revealed that part of her signature line of clothes, sold exclusively at Wal-Mart, was being manufactured under illegal and substandard conditions in Honduras and New York," the Post finally did manage to find a little space to note that "experts put the number of children working illegally around the world at 100 million to 200 million."

(Ms. Gifford's news conference was with Rep. Christopher Smith (R-NJ), who "unveiled the proposed International Child Labor Elimination Act. Highlights of the act include banning the import of products made by child labor, prohibiting any aid—other than humanitarian—to countries that don't enforce child labor laws, and providing \$50 million in funds to the International Labor Organization, which advocates fair and humane working conditions." At the risk of embarrassing the conservative Smith, JaxFax has to say it sounds like a good idea. Smith's bill raises the obvious question—shouldn't opposition to child labor be Democratic turf?)

- The International Labor Organization reported last month that at least 73 million children ages 10 through 14—13 percent of children that age around the world—are trapped in child labor. 45 million children of that age in Asia are working, and another 24 million kids in Africa.

- The U.S. Department of Labor, in its 1994 report, "Sweat & Toil," points out that:

2.2 million children between the ages of 10 and 14, about 3 percent of the total labor force, are economically active in Indonesia, mostly in rural areas. (This figure does not include child workers below 10 years of age and children involved in domestic work.)

- The forced labor of children occurs in the fishing industries of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, India, and Pakistan.

- There are many paths by which children may end up as prostitutes. Frequently, they are tricked or kidnapped, and then sold into prostitution; estimates are that 10,000 Burmese women and girls are trafficked into Thailand each year. The price paid by the brothel owners—\$400 to \$800—must be paid off by the young women themselves.

- Bonded children working in the

carpet industries of India, Pakistan, and Nepal may work up to 20 hours per day, 7 days a week. They often sleep, eat, and work in the same small, damp room, and are sometimes locked in at night.

- In the jungle of south-eastern Peru, children recruited by contractors to work for 9 months in gold mines find they must continue to work well beyond that period to pay off the difference between their wages and the larger amount they owe the contractors for transportation to the mines, food, and medication. In 1991, common graves of child workers were uncovered. The corpses revealed that the youths had died of disease, work accidents such as falls, and contusions.

- Most of the world's working children live in Asia, and the majority of these children work in the agricultural sector.

- A 1995 report by the Indian Commission on Labor Standards states that, "even on a conservative estimate, India has the largest number of urban and rural child workers in the world." The report acknowledges at least 18.6 million working children in 1990, but notes that private organizations have placed the figure at between 44 million to over 100 million.

All JaxFax can say is thank you to our forefathers and foremothers in the labor movement, who made it possible for our sons and daughters to be able to go to school rather than work in the fields. We're glad Mother Jones raised "less corn and more hell," and helped union activists get rid of child labor in this country.

It's time to do the same worldwide, and goods imported to America are part of the problem—which means we are all potentially part of the solution. In the 21st century, a child should be neither an employee nor a field hand. That is not what Jesus had in mind when he said, "suffer the little children to come unto me."

"Choose a family health plan before one is chosen for you."

—Louis Gossett, Jr.

"Sometime soon the State of New Jersey will automatically choose a health plan for certain families with AFDC Medicaid.

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EDITORIAL

Another senseless loss

In a shocking and horrific moment on Wednesday, July 17, TWA flight 800 en route to Paris exploded just minutes after takeoff, killing the 230 passengers and flight crew. Many along the Long Island and Fire Island shores were witnesses to the brilliant ball of light and flame that took out the Boeing 747.

The devastating loss of so many lives sends chills down our spines, and we pray as rescuers diligently work to recover anything to explain what happened. Yet, the question runs through our minds how could something this frightening happen.

While officials question sabotage, terrorism or some sort of faulty mechanics, the question that will forever run through the hearts and minds of the families of the victims: "Why them? Why my husband/wife/mother/father/child?" may never fully be answered.

In the last six months, major airline disasters have taken too many from us, and sufficient answers have yet to be found. The grief of the surviving families has yet to dissipate and for all of them it will be a long time coming.

From all of us here at City News we send our prayers and sympathies to all of the victims of Flight 800—those on the plane and those left at home.

Why churches burn

by Dr. Manning Marable

Every year, it seems like there's a national event involving black people that allows virtually all white Americans to "prove" they aren't racist. During the Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings, white reactionaries in Congress took great joy in the defense of a black man, condemning liberals for committing a "high tech lynching." In the last presidential election, white Republicans and Democrats alike deplored the racial uprising in Los Angeles, rarely examining the deeper reasons for the black community's rage. Last year, when O.J. was acquitted by a predominantly black jury, or when a million African-American men marched on Washington, DC, nearly the entire white establishment bled folks with "reverse racism."

Now in the election year, we have an issue that once again allows prominent and powerful whites to be sanctimonious on race: the epidemic of racist firebombings against African-American churches.

In the last six years, there have been 216 fires and desecrations in churches throughout the U.S. Half of these burnings have taken place since January, 1995, and nearly three-fourths of those have been African-American churches in the South. For months, few outside the black community listened or cared about this escalating crisis of vigilantism. Finally, as the pace of burnings increased, officials used the opportunity to take a public stand against intolerance and bigotry.

Republican presidential candidate Robert Dole attempted to win a few black votes by calling upon the Justice Department and police agencies to identify "the cowards responsible for these vicious acts of hate." Republican Senator Lauch Faircloth, NC, cosponsored a bill with liberal Democrat Ted Kennedy, which would permit the Department of Housing and Urban Development to guarantee private loans to repair and rebuild African-American churches.

President Clinton finally denounced the burnings, and established a joint task force of the Departments of Treasury and Justice, which involved more than 200 investigators. Clinton rejected the argument that the church burnings were part of a "conspiracy," but also declared that the burnings "tear at the very heart of what it means to be an American." I think this is a

place where nearly 100 percent of Americans are in accord." Similar expressions of outrage were made by conservative Republican Governor George Allen of Virginia. "Thirty or 40 years ago, people were making excuses for this behavior," Allen declared. "Now everyone, 100 percent of people who are speaking out, are condemning this."

But the most astute political gesture was made by Ralph Reed, director of the Christian Coalition. Meeting with African-American ministers in Atlanta, Reed pledged to raise one million dollars to help rebuild the churches. This was part of a strategy of "racial reconciliation." As Reed admitted: "I would not deny that there was a time in our nation's history when the white evangelical church was not only on the sidelines, but on the wrong side of the most central struggle for social justice in this century. I think that was wrong. I think we paid a price for that."

Please excuse me, but I think it's time for a reality check. Perhaps these politicians and leaders of the Christian Coalition mean what they say. Maybe there's finally a final connection between rhetoric and reality on race. But would someone please answer these two questions for me? First, if 100 percent of all Americans oppose this racist terrorism, then who is burning the churches? As columnist Bob Herbert astutely observed, this is certainly not the case of "spontaneous combustion." The fuel for these fires can be traced to a carefully crafted environment of bigotry and hatred that has developed over the past quarter-century.

Second, if racial oppression is the context for these burnings and desecrations, then who or what is responsible for creating this climate of prejudice, the fear and loathing of African-Americans and other people of color? Where is Bob Dole on the issue of racial violence against the black community? Where is the Republican Congress, on the importance of job programs and social services for the urban poor? Where is the Christian Coalition on the issue of majority-minority legislative districts, and the defense of the Voting Rights Act? Ralph Reed apologizes for the past, but remains silent about the present. Racism is a real and powerful force in American politics and society, both yesterday and today.

The "conspiracy" Clinton refuses to recognize is the convergence of high unemployment, budget cuts, the assault on affirmative action, minority economic set-asides and majority black legislative districts, and the demonization of both welfare mothers and young black men. If a political, social and economic environment of inequality and oppression of black America, what's needed are not more pious and pompous polemics denouncing bigotry, but more decisive action to create a just and more democratic society.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Columbia University, New York City.

FROM CAPITOL HILL

Ashe monument stands proud—amid prejudice

by Aski Muhammad



up commercial district. It looks like downtown Gary, Indiana.

Monument Avenue, a few blocks south of Broad on the other hand, boasts a tree-lined, super-wide median strip, and some of the finest houses in town. Since 1890, when a memorial was erected in what was then a cemetery, it has remained a memorial to a Confederate military Commander-in-Chief Gen. Robert E. Lee. Monument Avenue also became the home of four other Rebel heroes—Confederate President Jefferson Davis, Generals Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, J.E.B. Stuart, and Confederate General William F. "Fighting" Hartsfield.

Now, in the words of former Gov. Douglas Wilder—the first black elected governor in the nation—"Monument Avenue is now an avenue for all people."

What has transformed that boulevard from a symbol of intransigence, interposition and nullification, into a thoroughfare of pride, reverence and understanding is a monument to tennis star Arthur Ashe, a Richmond native son.

During the Jim Crow 1950s, Arthur Ashe started playing tennis at age 7 with a borrowed racket at the segregated Richmond Racquet Club. In 1964 he became the first black person named in the U.S. Davis Cup team. His accomplishments, on and off the court, have been legend since then.

By 1965 he had swept through the best players in that division, winning the finals in a grueling match at the Australian Tournament. In 1968 he became the first African American to win the U.S. National Title at Forest Hills. He was rated top player in the country in 1968, winning 30 matches in a row.

The author of *A Hard Road to Glory*, an encyclopedia of the history of blacks in sports in 1988, Mr. Ashe lived what he wrote. In the late 1960s he became active in human rights issues, particularly opposing racial discrimination. When he was denied a visa to compete in the South African Open Championship, he fought the

U.S. Davis Cup as a result.

His hall of fame status of Mr. Ashe in a warm-up set, holding aloft a tennis racket in one hand, and slightly higher, a book in the other. He is surrounded by four children, atop a 45-ton marble column. Indeed, several people I spoke to the day after its dedication shared my awe.

At its unveiling, two dozen whites protested silently, holding signs reading "Heritage Desecration is not a Civil Right." Ashe Location Chosen to Perpetuate Hate," and "Cultural Bigots Destroying Southern Heritage," among others.

To them I say, "Get Over It." Learn the lesson of endurance and grace that Arthur Ashe teaches even from the grave, in this final victory. The inscription on the stone base of his memorial comes from the Book of Hebrews. The passage was at the beginning of Mr. Ashe's autobiography, *Days of Grace*. "Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."

The mounting war against African Americans

by John E. Warren

Special to the NNPA from The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint

The United States Supreme Court's decision to eliminate certain Congressional districts as illegal because they were drawn to increase black voter participation, the election recount and continued attacks on black churches, are but only a few of the latest expressions of a growing racial and spiritual assault on African Americans that must not go ignored.

We know from a spiritual perspective that, to wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:12).

Given these spiritual revelations,

our response must be prayer-based, "for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God." (II Corinthians 10:4). But we must also be ready to act collectively and positively and we must understand history so that we do not repeat it.

Those churches that have not done so must develop joint prayer groups among their members. They must "watch and pray," regardless of where they are located. But each community of black churches should form a combined Church Protection Fund. This fund could be started with a \$100 contribution from each church with the pastors of all the participating churches making up the board of directors. Each church community could then decide how to help local or other black churches destroyed by fires.

While the Church Protection Fund can accept contributions from insur-

ance companies, the Christian right or anyone who wishes to contribute, we as African Americans have enough members in this country to finance our own needs. We must not assume the traditional posture of begging for what we need while we individually buy what we want.

The bringing together of our dollars to help each other must be one of our first steps in resisting our personal and collective destruction. We must use our black press as a partner in this effort. We don't need a new way of local fundraising; we need a reorienting of what we already spend. African Americans already buy more cognac, potato chips and butter than anyone else in America. We also buy more fast foods and soft drinks. We have the money to help ourselves. The question is, will we?

African Americans should also be

reminded that 100 years ago we had blacks in Congress and two blacks in the U.S. Senate, whereas today, we have only one. But because of Jim Crow laws, the withdrawal of Union troops from the South and a rash of laws like *Plessy vs. Ferguson*, and poll taxes on the right to vote, there were no blacks in Congress by the end of 1901.

We must not allow Clarence Thomas and his friends on the Supreme Court to take away our rights as a people and as citizens. This newspaper calls upon you to understand that these issues of church burnings and had Supreme Court rulings go together. We can and must resist both.

John Warren is editor and publisher of The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint newspaper.

Affirmative action: an unfulfilled promise to blacks

by Dr. Claud Anderson

Economic affirmative action for black Americans is morally justifiable and is still needed. Affirmative action policies were initially instituted to level the playing field for the black race.

Today's public policy has allowed a few groups that fall to address the original Constitutional intent. The new policy equates blacks to women and not statistically handicapped blacks. Since the 1960s, blacks are locked into the lowest level of a real-life monopoly game. Blacks were left out of the original distribution of wealth resources at the beginning of the game and it is extremely difficult for them to compete or win. Blacks play the game but whites control or own nearly 100 percent of this nation's income, wealth, businesses, resources, powers, privileges and government. Black America is so far behind the starting line that the outcomes of any socioeconomic competition are racially foreordained.

Voting "thumbs up" or "down" on this nation's affirmative action policy should not be a difficult task. The current policy is so off target that diluted with gender and ethnic groupings that even if it were terminated, blacks would lose very little.

Contrary to popular belief, white society receives directly and indirectly the greatest benefit from affirmative action. White women consistently receive the lion's share of benefits even though they co-own, control, influence, have access to, or will inherit nearly 100 percent of the possessions of white males. Hispanic immigrants, like white women, get double benefits and are the second largest beneficiary group. Free of the shackles of slavery, segregation and racism, Hispanics compete with blacks in minority programs even though 85 percent of all Hispanics are classified as whites. Since black Americans spend 95 percent of their approximately \$320 billion in disposable annual income in white businesses and communities, they end up with the affirmative action bill without the benefit.

The conservative backlash to affirmative action for black Americans is

new. There is a historical and natural basis for this conservative and affirmative action. Conservatism means negativism or opposition to change, while affirmative action suggests positiveness or corrective action. History shows that every time the black man has sought to alter the conditions, conservatism arose to reassert and reconfirm white values, authority, and dominance. Conservatives have long defended the status quo, accepting advantages and privileges for whites, and the systematic subordination and deprivation of blacks, as the norm. The mere mention of any policy or device to alter the status quo, accepting advantages and privileges for whites, and the systematic subordination and deprivation of blacks, as the norm. The mere mention of any policy or device to alter the status quo, accepting advantages and privileges for whites, and the systematic subordination and deprivation of blacks, as the norm.

Most of white society lives in a state of denial about how their race acquired its wealth and resources. Most conservatives ignore the historical reality that racial discrimination against blacks constituted preferential treatment for whites, and that Jim Crow segregation was nothing more than a 100 year set-back policy that reserved the best jobs, schools, neighborhoods and business opportunities for whites only. They refuse to acknowledge that the advantages and privileges they enjoy today are the direct legacies of black slavery and Jim Crow segregation. They pretend not to understand that any present day reversal of barriers against blacks is simply a removal of unjustifiable, preferential advantages for whites. Understandably, conservatives now argue for a color-blind society simply to avoid giving preferential treatment to blacks.

The current affirmative action debate continues to rage that those who ignore their history are prone to repeat it. The 13th, 14th, and 15th Constitutional Amendments were the first affirmative action policy for blacks and ended slavery and gave blacks political and civil rights. But their corrective action for blacks was cut short. Conservative whites enacted "black codes" in the 1870s that denied blacks not only their "40 acres and mule" but the freedoms and civil rights promised in the Constitutional amendments.

Nearly a century later, in the closing of the black civil rights movement, blacks were again denied affirmative or corrective action and economically bettered. President Lyndon B. Johnson attempted to recapture the spirit and intent of the Constitutional Amendments, but all the subsequent civil rights laws for blacks. In 1965, he proposed compensatory economic resources to black Americans so that they could overcome the effects of historical discrimination and injustices imposed on them by the dominant society.

The intent of President Johnson's affirmative action and Great Society programs was to ensure that the programs have had minimum impact on blacks because they never received the same degree of broad moral, legal and financial support from white society that black slavery and segregation had received. By the early 1970s, white liberals were deserting the black civil

rights movement and joining white conservatives, who were determined as ever to maintain the social and economic status quo on blacks.

Within the minority category, discrimination remains King. Blacks are considered the lowest of the low in the pecking order of endurance, yet unresolved, relationship with white society. The original intent of affirmative action was to bring fairness and justice to blacks for the legitimate, legal claim that blacks hold against our government.

Blacks are the only identifiable group in America who have been systematically singled out, had the fruits of their labor exploited, and been denied access to this nation's educational, social and economic systems—and all because of skin color. After 400 years of planned impoverishment, illiteracy, criminalization and hopeless-

SEE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/PAGE 8

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Publisher
Henry C. Johnson P.D.
Executive Editor
Jim Edgerton Johnson
Associate Editor
Sandra Wright
Director of Advertising Sales
Henry Johnson
Contributing Writers
Connie Woodruff,
Rev. Reginald Jackson,
Sharon/James Vincent,
Kelly Howard
Composition & Layout
Sandra Wright, Steve Green
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YOUTHBEAT

A blast from the past

by Kelly Howard

PLAINFIELD—Tokio-officemomplains of postage stamps of four folk heroes, the United States Post Office and the Plainfield Public Library held a special story time for elementary school children on Thursday, July 11.

Children from the Black United Fund, Washington School and the YMCA were treated to folk singing and storytelling under the folk hero mural in the Main Post Office at 10 a.m. The event kicked off with singing by two local folk singers, Chuck Wren of Plainfield, and Chris Doughty, of Warren. Along with songs about the featured folk heroes, Wren and Doughty sang, with the help of the audience, *Oh My Darling Clementine*, and *Take Me Out to the Ball Game*.

"This is a delightful tie-in to the summer reading and story time programs," said library director Joseph Da Rold, "and a way to remind kids and parents we have books about everything."

The "Folk Hero" stamps feature John Henry, Paul Bunyan, Mighty Casey and Pecos Bill, four characters from American folklore. As the chil-

dren and adults gathered under the "Folklore of America" mural, three storytellers told the tale of three of the heroes featured in the painting.

Mayer Mark Fry, standing in for his wife, had the children enthralled in the tale of John Henry. Janice People, storyteller specialist at Plainfield Library, reenacted on flannel board the legend of Johnny Applesseed; and local actor Harry Alistair recounted the story of Paul Bunyan.

"It is wonderful that we show children bits of America and folklore and the history of their towns as well," said Plainfield Postmaster Joseph Diglio. "Maybe this will give them the impetus to get into stamp collecting on a regular basis as many of our commemoratives are based on American history."

The four "Folk Hero" stamps were officially issued on July 11, at the Postage Stamp Mega Event in Aieha, CA, and went on sale nationwide the following day. The "Folklore of America" mural featuring larger than life images of John Henry, Paul Bunyan and Johnny Applesseed, was painted by Anton Refregier in 1942 as part of the New Deal Art program.



Folk Heroes stamps

Don't waste your summer Read*Write*Now



Dennis Hightower
Director of Diversity Community Development/Middle East

PLAINFIELD—As part of the U.S. Department of Education's initiative to improve the reading and writing skills of America's children, free Read*Write*Now kits are available in the Young People's Department of the Plainfield Public Library.

The program's formula for making reading and writing fun and productive is by using a "learning partner" and a book. Each kit includes tips for getting a "learning partner" and activities for the child.

Children must agree to read and write for 30 minutes each day, five days per week. Family reading is also encouraged. Children will be required to meet with the "learning partner" once a week for tutoring and extra help. For additional information on the program call the Plainfield Public Library at 757-2305.

This Week in Black History

JULY 24

1807: Shakespearean actor Ira Aldridge is born in New York City.

1892: Sociologist Charles S. Johnson is born in Bristol, VA.

1923: First pianist, bandleader, educator and correspondent Billy Taylor is born in Greenville, NC.

1964: Grace Bunbury makes her debut in Richard Wagner's *Tannhauser* at the Bayreuth Festival in Bavaria.

1967: Three days of rioting begin in Cambridge, MD, the site of a 1963 confrontation between civil rights demonstrators and white segregationists.

JULY 25

1921: Liberty Life Insurance Company is called out of the state to subsidize for the regular carrier of the Pittsburgh Homestead Grays, one of the best-known all-Negro professional baseball teams.

1966: Black Enterprise publisher Earl G. Graves and Los Angeles Lakers star Magic Johnson become the largest minority-controlled Pepsi-Cola franchise in the country when they sign a \$60 million agreement to purchase Pepsi-Cola of Washington, DC.

1991: Dr. N. N. Hightower is promoted to president of Diversity Community Development/Middle East.

JULY 26

1847: Twenty-five years after the first free African-Americans arrive at the colony of Cape Mesurado, the commonwealth of Liberia declares itself an independent republic. Joseph Jenkins Robin, a Virginia native, becomes its first resident.

1865: Catholic priest Patrick Francis Healy presides his final Ph.D. examination in philosophy at Louvain in Belgium. He becomes the first African-American to earn a Ph.D.

1916: Lawyer, dean and judge Spottswood W. Robinson is born in Richmond, VA.

1918: Two days later after she moves into a predominantly, though not exclusively, white Philadelphia neighborhood, an African-American woman's house is stoned. The incident set off four days of riots in which one African-American and three whites were killed.

1948: President Harry S. Truman issues Executive Order 9961, directing "equal-

ity of treatment and opportunity" in federal employment and the armed forces.

JULY 27

1919: Chicago race riots kill 23 African-Americans and 15 whites and injure more than 500, despite warnings from Ida B. Wells-Barnett to city officials to improve conditions for African-Americans in the city.

1937: Drama critic, producer and dramatist Woolie King, Jr., is born in Detroit, MI.

1984: Reverend C. L. Franklin dies in Detroit, MI, after a long coma sustained after being shot by a burglar in his home.

JULY 28

1802: Author Alexandre Dumas (he is born in Villiers-Cotterets to a Haitian mulatto, Thomas Alexandre Dumas, and Marie Labouret Dumas, a French woman).

1905: Maggie Lena Walker found and was the first president of St. Luke Penny Savings Bank in Richmond, VA. She is the first woman bank president in the nation.

1917: Led by W.E.B. DuBois and James Weldon Johnson, over 10,000 African-Americans march down Fifth Avenue in New York City to the sound of muffled drums in silent protest of lynchings and other racial indignities that were rampant in the United States.

JULY 29

1909: Novelist Chester Himes is born in Jefferson City, MO.

1915: The first convention of the National Association of Negro Musicians is held in Chicago, IL.

1991: Physician Bernard A. Harris, Jr., becomes a full-fledged astronaut.

JULY 30

1822: James Varney is consecrated as the first bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AMEZ).

1885: Eugene Kinckle Jones is born in Richmond, VA. He was a social worker and first executive secretary of the National Urban League.

1967: Eight days of rioting ends in Detroit, MI.

1970: Author, television columnist and Hofstra University professor Louis E. Lomax dies in a car accident near Santa Rosa, NM.

1988: The first National Black Arts Festival opens in Atlanta, GA.

Kids Kalendar

JULY AND AUGUST
SOUTH PLAINFIELD—Fingley's School of Gymnastics open houses for all non-enrolled boys and girls ages 1 1/2 to 6 up on Mondays, 7 to 9 p.m. and Tuesdays, 10 to 11 a.m. For more info call 908-561-8888.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24
PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Community Computing Center will start summer computer programs for children 7 to 14. For more info call 908-756-7897.

FRIDAY, JULY 26
PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Public Library's "Little People" storytime for pre-K and kindergarten children at 11 a.m. in the Young People's Room. For more info call 908-757-1111.

THURSDAY, JULY 30
NEW BRUNSWICK—Crossroads Theatre Company announces its summer theater festival for children 11 thru 13. For more info call Ami Govani at 908-249-5581, ext. 41.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2
PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Public Library's "Little People" storytime for pre-K and kindergarten children at 11 a.m. in the Young People's Room. For more info call 908-757-1111.

AUGUST 4 THRU 9
SUSSEX—4-H sleep-over camp will take place at Bearwreathville 4-H Camp in Sussex County for children in grades 3 to 9. For more info call 201-875-4715.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9
PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Public Library's "Little People" storytime for pre-K and kindergarten children at 11 a.m. in the Young People's Room. For more info call 908-757-1111.

AUGUST 11 THRU 16
SUSSEX—4-H sleep-over camp will take place at Bearwreathville 4-H Camp in Sussex County for children in grades 3 to 9. For more info call 201-875-4715.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16
NEWARK—The Newark Museum presents programs for children ages 6 thru 14. For more info call 201-596-8651.

PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Kumaon and Little Byes will hold summer programs for youth ages 5 to 14. For more info call 908-756-0006.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15
NEWARK—The New Jersey Historical Society showcases The Kids Bridge exhibition at 230 Broadway. For more info call 201-483-3939.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to our publication.

Ocean Spray offers \$143,000 for women's athletics

MIDDLEBORO, MA.—To help female athletes realize their full potential in both sports and academics, Ocean Spray Cranberries will once again offer over \$100,000 in scholarships, awards and grants for outstanding female athletes and high schools across the country.

The funds are available through Ocean Spray's Women's Athletic Awards program, as part of the company's continued commitment to encourage young women to play high school sports, now in its fourth year, high school seniors with outstanding scholastic and athletic abilities are eligible to receive up to \$10,000. Female athletes can be nominated by their coaches, parents or by themselves.

Ocean Spray will also provide two financial assistance programs for high schools. The Excellence Awards to schools that have shown significant efforts in promoting women's sports; and Athletic Grants schools in need of a financial boost to improve their female athletic programs. Schools eligible for either program can receive up to \$10,000. Applications for the scholarship, awards and grants are available by calling Ocean Spray at 1-800-662-3265.

Have a safe and fun-filled summer



NEWARK—The Chad School, a 25-year-old African-American-owned and operated private school in Newark recently held its graduations for middle and high school students. The school maintains reading and math scores well above the national average. Chad's School has been cited and received grant money from the National Science Foundation. Pictured at the school's 8th grade commencement exercises are (l to r) Reuben Dash and Gwen Samuels, school officials; Khaleel R. Chiles; Stephanie Bonner-Wiggins, salutatorian; Archbishop Herman R. Connolly, Chad board chairman; Brianna Gaynor valedictorian; and Donald Key Mobley.

Photo by Cathy Neff

The Tunes are coming to town!!



Looney Tunes characters including Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Sylvester, Tweety Bird, will perform in 10-minute song and dance stage productions. Each performance will be followed by a 20-minute "meet and greet" session with Festival guests. Photo opportunities will also be available. Showtimes will be Saturday, July 27, at 8:30 a.m., 2 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. Sunday, July 28, the characters will appear at 7 a.m. breakfast for a meet and greet session, and will perform shows at 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The Festival is sponsored by Prudential Healthcare and Six Flags Great Escape. For additional information call 800-HOTAIR-9.

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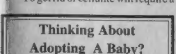
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ENTERTAINMENT

BillBoard

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

MOUNTAIN SIDE—The Union County Parks Division presents "An Evening of Motown" with The Sensational Soul Cruisers at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 908-527-4900.

NEW YORK—Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts presents Midsummer Swing with Brave Combo and Los Macondos from 8:15 to 11 p.m. For more info call 212-875-5102.

THURSDAY, JULY 25

NEW YORK—Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts presents Midsummer Swing with Roomful of Blues from 8:15 to 11 p.m. For more info call 212-875-5102.

HOBOKEN—The City of Hoboken and Projected Images continues with *Movies Under the Stars* at 9 p.m. with *Peewee's Big Adventure*, at Erie Lackawanna Plaza. For more info call 201-217-4077.

JULY 25 THRU AUGUST 11

UPPER MONTCLAIR—Theatre/Fest continues at Montclair State University with *West Side Story*. For more info call 201-656-5115.

THRU JULY 26

NEWARK—The Piro Restaurant Jazz Series continues with Jazz Priorities in the Atrium featuring Ronnie Bay from 8 to 10 p.m. For more info call 201-242-8012.

WAYNE—William Paterson College presents its third annual "Jazz It Up!" festival at Shea Center. For more info call 201-895-3771.

FRIDAY, JULY 26

WESTBURY—Summer Nights at the Music Fair continues with Russell Simmons' DefComedy Jam at 8 p.m. For more info call 516-334-0800.

NEW YORK—Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts presents Midsummer Swing with La Bohème Soufante from 8:15 to 11 p.m. For more info call 212-875-5102.

Feeling the Rhythm of the Games

by Kelly Howard

As the athletes enter Centennial Olympic Stadium to the beat of their own drum, that sound may be overshadowed by those of the *Rhythm of the Games*.

A special compilation album, *Rhythm of the Games* was released on May 21 from the Atlanta-based LaFace Records and the 1996 Olympic Games to celebrate this summer's centennial Olympic games. *Rhythm of the Games* features a diverse group of performers including some of today's hottest young African-American entertainers.

With both original songs and re-makes, *Rhythm of the Games* speaks the language of what has driven the athletes to compete in the games—the desire to be the best.

On the first release from the album, "Reach," Gloria Estefan sings a sweet song of inspiration for both the athletes and herself. Estefan survived and recovered from severe injuries during an accident with her tour bus a few years ago.

Reaching for dreams, and dreams themselves are the overall vibe of the album, from the beginning with Tavis Campbell's wonderful rendition of *The Impossible Dream*, to a soulful a cappella version of *The Star Spangled Banner/America Medley* by Boyz II Men.

Rhythm of the Games, executive produced by LaFace co-founders and co-presidents Antonio "L.A." Reid and Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds, is not only a wonderfully composed album, but speaks of the rich diversity of music and people.

"I'm particularly pleased to be a part of this project because our company, LaFace Records, is based in Atlanta, where the games are being played, and is spearheading this



project," said Edmonds. "I'm also pleased because we're working with artists that are not only fun to work with, but are exceptional in every sense of the word."

The album also features a stirring rendition of John Lennon's "Imagine" by ex-Living Colour from man Corey Glover, a previously unreleased

track from the super-hot Tony Rich and more from Mary J. Blige, Brian McKnight, Usher, Kenny G, Soul IV Real, Monifah, Jordan Hill and K Ci Hailey.

Proceeds from *Rhythm of the Games* will benefit the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) and the U.S. Committee programs.

Downing and Najee leads all star show at Club Bené



Najee



Will Downing

SAVERVILLE—This Wednesday, July 31 will be "A Night To Remember" at the Club Bené when jazz artists Will Downing, Najee, Jonathan Butler and Angela Bofill strike in one-of-a-kind jazz show. Showtimes will be at 8 and 10 p.m. with an optional dinner at 6:30 p.m. Downing is touring in support of his latest CD *Trilled Moods*. With Moods, Downing's powerhouse vocals and heartfelt composing/producing skills combine to create a sumptuous musical blend of R&B shadings, jazz stylings and contemporary rhythms. So many supreme Najee is supporting his latest work, *Tribute To Stevie Wonder*. Bofill is currently supporting her latest LP on Jive Records titled *I Wanna Love Somebody*. Rounding out the foursome is guitarist, singer, Jonathan Butler who topped all charts with his rendition of Sara. His LPs include *Head Our Land*, *Deliverance* and *Head To Head*. This evening is not to be missed if you are a jazz fan. For reservations call 908-727-3000.

Me, Pathfinder.



NEW YORK—Straight out of Vassar College, Yvonne Welbon (top r) moved to Taiwan to improve her Chinese. Her six-year stay radically transformed her understanding of what it means to be an African American and strengthen her relationship with her Honduran-born grandmother (top l). In the documentary, *Remembering Wei Yi-Fang, Remembering Myself*, Welbon explores the avenues used to connect with race, culture, and identity. In *Nichi Le* (Cyclo), M. Trinh Nguyen, (bottom land r) the daughter of a wealthy South Vietnamese family that fled to the United States to escape the war, gracefully chronicles her return to the homeland she hasn't seen since childhood. In her haunting film, Nguyen, torn between the two countries, tries to reconcile her two selves. Part of P.O.V., broadcast television's continuing forum for independent non-fiction film, both films will air nationally on Tuesday, July 30 at 10 p.m. ET on PBS. Check local listings.

Jazz event shines despite rain

by Ron L. Holland

ASBURY PARK—By the time the dark clouds and heavy winds gave way to clearing skies, thousands of committed jazz fans packed the Paramount Theater to indulge themselves in the musical talents of several popular jazz musicians, including the "First Lady of the Flute" Bobbi Humphreys. "Jazz tells a story about our lives and I feel it's a part of black history," said New Jersey resident Dorsey Denery. "This is one way for black people to express themselves," said Denery, who has attended the annual event for the past two years and vows to continue.

Usually held at Sunset Park and Main Street, the looming clouds and sporadic rains prompted festival organizers to move the event indoors. Most of the vendors were situated in the convention hall's lobby, and a food court of sorts was set up along the street of the hall.

"We've had a filtering in of a couple of thousand people so that is good for an event that basically should have been rained out," said Dina Todd, founder and coordinator of the annual event. For the past eight years sunny skies and hot weather was the order of the day.

Although Todd was disappointed that it rained this year, she hoped that next year's festival will be held at its usual spot. "It just calls for a park setting and the lake side and the ambience of that just lends to the jazz fes-

tival," she said.

The event featured several regional talents that had children dancing in the aisles and the adults bouncing in their seats.

The performance of Gospel Jazz artist Kevin Scott and His Musicians was an adequate precursor to the much anticipated performance of Bobbi Humphreys. Scott, who has played the saxophone since the age of 7, said that jazz has African roots, particularly the use of the drum.

"When you build a house, you start with the foundation, and the drum is the foundation for jazz. It holds it up, it's the foundation," he said.

The Saverille musician said that Jazz is "a universal message of all mankind."

The highlight of the day was the commanding performance of Bobbi Humphreys. Just returning from Africa, Humphreys demonstrated why her audiences are eager to witness her talents.

From the moment she stepped on stage until the conclusion of her performance, the audience rose to their feet several times in a 90-minute period and gave her a standing ovation. Humphreys autographed CDs after the show.

The other performers included traditional jazz vocalist Jackie Jones, of Newark; Latin melody, led by vocalist Rita Elano, who invited several audience members to dance on stage; and the group Passages, of Pennington, NJ.

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BUSINESS

Newark residents earn over \$1 mil in NJPAC contract

Business Calendar

JULY 24 THRU 25

NEW YORK—The Advertising Research Foundation presents the **ARF Interactive Media Research Summit II: Bringing Clarity to New Media Research** at the New York Hilton. For more info call 212-751-5656.

THURSDAY, JULY 25

NEWARK—Regional Business Partnership's **International Business Over Breakfast** at the Newark Club from 8:30 to 10 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6257.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

METUCHEN—**How to Survive in Today's Economy** seminar for business owners at 7 p.m. at Cayan Restaurant. For more info call 800-932-0093 or 908-494-4795.

JERSEY CITY—Air Services Development Office is sponsoring a **Women Business Enterprises Symposium** at Hudson County Freeholders Chambers from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more info call 201-961-4278.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

BORDENTOWN—Small Business Assistance takes its Loan program show on the road with **Community Assistance Seminar** at Bordentown Township Municipal Complex 9:30 to noon. For more info call 609-586-4800 ext. 688.

BOUND BROOK—Sandler Sales Institute presents the seminar **Break the Rules and Close More Sales** from 9 to 10 a.m. For more info call 908-868-0232.

EAST RUTHERFORD—Peter Lowe's Success 1996 seminar at Continental Arena 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more info call 1-800-689-6963.

NEW ROCHELLE, NY—The **NY/NJ Minority Purchasing Council, Inc.'s 2nd Annual Scholarship & Networking Fund Day** at The Wyckoff County Club. For more info call 212-522-7632.

AUGUST 3 THRU 10

PUERTO RICO—the National Minority Business Council will host a **trade mission to Puerto Rico**. For more info call 212-573-2385.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

NEWARK—Newark residents who are part of the construction team building the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in their home city have earned more than one million dollars in wages and benefits for their efforts to date.

NJPAC President and CEO Lawrence P. Goldman said the Arts Center's Board and management made hiring of Newark residents, whenever possible, a priority stressed to all its contractors.

"We have set out on a journey," Goldman said, "to create one of the great Arts Centers of the 21st Century which will not only be 'for' the enjoyment and cultural and educational enrichment of the people of New Jersey but, in great measure, built by them also."

"I am elated," said Newark Mayor Sharpe James, "that Newark residents have been able to take advantage of the financial opportunities arising from development of the Arts Center. This also means that many of the dollars earned are being spent in Newark retail shops, restaurants and neighborhood shops."

Gustav Henningburg, president of Gustav Henningburg Associates, Inc., of Newark, a minority-owned firm retained by NJPAC to help develop and implement its minority participation program, said: "Until now, no construction project built by the City of Newark since public policy guidelines were developed to assure Newark residents their fair share of jobs has resulted in wages exceeding one million dollars."

More importantly, Henningburg pointed out, Newark residents are working in virtually every construction trade including teamsters, operating engineers, carpenters, masons, iron workers, electricians, plumbers, painters, asbestos workers and laborers. Through May 31, 1996, according to certified data collected by his firm, construction workers who reside in Newark had logged 38,470 hours.

On a broader scale, according to Gail L. Thompson, Vice President for Design and Construction, "NJPAC has held steadfast to its commitment that minority (MBE) and women-owned (WBE) businesses would be afforded extraordinary opportunities

to participate in the design and construction of the Arts Center."

Of the \$70,648,560 in contracts awarded to date by NJPAC, 34 percent—or \$23,723,985—have been awarded to MBE/WBE firms. Thompson also pointed out that \$4,272,394 or 42 percent of the total wages paid through May 31 have been paid to minority construction workers. With more than 60 percent of the construction completed, NJPAC is on track to meet its scheduled opening in the Fall of 1997.

The \$180 million Arts Center, the first to be built in the northeast in 30 years, is under construction on a 12-acre site in the heart of downtown Newark. The Center will include two theaters—the 2,750-seat Prudential Hall and the 500-seat Victoria Theater—restaurants, rehearsal and administrative space, a gift shop and banquet facilities.

Theater Square, a public plaza and performance space, is being constructed adjacent to Prudential Hall. New surface and underground parking will be available immediately adjacent to the Arts Center.



NJPAC Vice President for Design and Construction Gail L. Thompson (2nd from R) is pictured reviewing blueprints with Newark residents, John Henderson, (R) Gabriel Jones (2nd from R) and Larry Reddick Sr. NJPAC is scheduled to open in the Fall of 1997.

Investors Savings to build low-income housing

MILLBURN—Always advocate and promoter of home ownership, Investors Savings Bank recently took an active role in raising funds for Habitat for Humanity.

The Habitat for Humanity program was founded in 1976. It's mission is to eliminate poverty housing wherever it exists. Since its founding, the program—utilizing volunteer labor and donations of money, land and materials—has built or rehabilitated over 40,000 houses, providing homes for over 100,000 families.

"What we particularly like about the Habitat for Humanity program, said

Patrick J. Grant, president and CEO of Investors, "is that it does not simply give houses to people. Prospective home owners are required to invest hundreds of hours of their own labor into the building of their homes and the homes of others. It's called 'sweat equity', and what it builds is a feeling of pride and accomplishment. We are pleased to be involved with such a fine cause."

The fund-raising program, which was organized by the NJ Savings League, was set up in such a way that the money raised by the 80 participating Newark financial institutions

will be used to provide homes for families in the Garden State, so we are truly helping our neighbors," he said.

The fund-raising event ran from June 14, Flag Day, to the Independence Day weekend, and Investors Savings Bank's 25 offices raised a total in excess of \$5,000, surpassing their set goal of \$3,000. The top office was the branch located at 34 Union Ave. in Irvington, raising a total of \$829. The East Orange office was second, bringing Habitat for Humanity \$715; Investors' Springfield branch on Morris Ave. was third, raising \$378.

To make the project more fun for its employees, Wednesday, July 3, the final day of the drive, was declared Dress Down Day for Habitat for Humanity for the bank's staff; employees each generously donated an additional dollar to top off the funds they had already collected.

Affirmative action

Continued from page 4

ness, leveling the playing field for blacks must constitute more than giving them an 'equal opportunity' to compete. Without a change in the systemic conditions of an economically unequal group, an equal opportunity policy is little more than a cruel joke. Government playing a major role in creating the race problem, therefore, it has an equal responsibility to correct it.

As the nation positions itself to debate the pros and cons of affirmative action, the racial biases of the conservative agenda must be screened out. Many of the very same conservative individuals and organizations who opposed the black civil rights movement and racial integration now op-

pose affirmative action and economic restitution for blacks.

Black America can respond to the affirmative action debate in several ways. It can reject the current policy and seek black reparations similar to that received by Native Americans, Jews, indentured white servants, and Japanese Americans; seek modifications that exclude gender and ethnic groups; propose a point system that ranks and weights the various minority groups based upon the severity of any government-sponsored injustices; or, it can continue to spend political capital supporting a policy that gives few benefits.

Dr. Claud Anderson is author of *Black Labor, White Wealth*

AT&T helps businesses hone customer service skills

BRIDGEWATER—Businesses looking to stand out in the crowd by providing outstanding customer service can now call on a recognized customer care expert—AT&T—to help sharpen their internal processes.

A new program, called AT&T Toll-Free Solutions for Customer Service, provides businesses with personalized

customer care assistance in three areas: Personnel tools to help select, train, motivate and utilize customer service employees; process tools to help design or revise customer operations to be more efficient and performance tools to effectively meet people and processes. For more information contact your AT&T executive.

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Estimated 55,000 attend 'Greekfest' at Belmar shore

by Avery Grant

BELMAR—An estimated 55,000 Black fraternity and sorority members and young people from all over the tri-state area came to the Belmar shore to be a part of the annual "Greekfest."

This is not an organized affair, nor is it sponsored by any pan-hellenic organizations, but it has become an annual tradition that each year after the annual greek-organizations picnic in Fairmount Park, in Philadelphia many trek to the shore.

"It is a group of young people coming into town to meet their friends and have a good time," said Howard L. West, president of the Asbury Park Neptune NAACP Branch. "It was very proud of them."

"They came and respected the

city and showed off the latest and finest wears, it was a real fashion show."

West said that many shop owners didn't open, or closed early and they hired armed security guards. West said, "They don't do this because the seafood Festival or the Volleyball Tournament, they just want to send a message that they don't want blacks in town."

West complained the police for being more cordial this year, and credited the change to the direct involvement of the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office. According to him, "Our NAACP branch withdrew from the planning when they received a copy of Belmar Police Chief Lynch's plan, because it was not a real plan of action. But thank God, the prosecutor got involved and things went much

better than last year."

Louis Jourdan, of the prosecutor's office, said he took flyers about traffic, parking and alcohol restrictions to the picnic in Philadelphia.

Tony Johnson of Neptune stated that "Real brothers and sisters do real things, we are going to try to stick together, be what we had a nice time, and we want to come together more often as brothers and sisters, and we are against violence."

The crowd also included some special guests like, Aaron Reeves, of Trenton, with his three-foot alligator, "I brought it. Gator to have some fun with all of these beautiful ladies." Prince, of Newark, brought his six-foot python, Nicky.

The crowd was also well entertained by some of the step show performances by members of the greek organizations.

Sharon Hall, of Newark said, "It was better this year, even though my girlfriends and I got into a little tussle with a boy because we wouldn't give out our phone numbers."

Many attendees voiced concern that the city of Belmar treated this gathering different from other events held in town.

Darrin Hayes, of Asbury Park said, "Since the three years that I have been here, every year that blacks come they block off the streets and bring in 600 police, because they don't really want us here."

"We are having a good time and there are no problems, so we should have equal rights. We certainly made a fool out of the authorities because there

has been no violence. Tomorrow the beaches will be open with no restrictions, that's not right."

Belmar Mayor Ken Pringle said, "We are trying to do a good job. We don't have any other events to compare this to, but we do try to keep as much away from the residents as possible, and keep vehicle traffic to a minimum in the area."

"Other large events, including the St. Patrick's Day Parade, are more family oriented, but even there we try to minimize drinking and traffic. We have to take it a year at a time, and I think this year was better than last year."

West complimented Mount Olive Baptist Church, for opening their church as a comfort station, providing sandwiches and soda, and transporting people to the beach in their church

bus.

Belmar Police Sergeant Gresi, who estimated the attendance at 55,000, said the traffic plan worked better, and that they issued pink cards to residents to permit entrance to the area."

According to him there were 20 arrests for drinking in public, marijuana possession, and fighting. As for checking coolers, Gresi said, "We did not physically check coolers, but we did stop people and tell them that if the cooler contained alcoholic drinks that they could not be consumed on the streets or beach in public, by city ordinances."

A Lakewood couple with their two children, noon, "We have been coming for years, and we have a good time seeing our young people enjoying themselves, but we just want to be treated equally, like any other gathering."

Newark school plans

Continued from page 1

to function in a regular school setting at a cost of \$1.1 million.

✓ Innovative instructional programs such as "hands-on" science and special programs to support substance abuse that will receive \$5 million.

✓ Twenty-eight additional teaching positions and 80 new school staff developer positions, will be funded by allocating \$3.2 million. The remaining \$4.3 million will pay for costs relating to these new services.

✓ Decentralization

"Decentralized administration is one of the highly visible examples of reallocation," said Dr. Hall.

Under the new plan, the district's current five school clusters will be converted into highly autonomous school leadership teams. The cluster

teams will be housed away from district headquarters and will be staffed with reassigned central office and newly recruited personnel. Each cluster team will have broad authority and responsibility for budget, staffing, and student achievement.

"It's primary mission is to support and ensure the success of school-based decision making by teams made up of faculty, parents, other community members and business partners," explained Dr. Hall.

Dr. Hall said that he will give priority to new teacher and administrator from Newark, citing that over 80 percent are currently not from the city.

On the road to recovery

Once the state takes over a school district, it has five years to improve the system. There will be a one-year transition period if the state decides to give back control to the city of Newark.

"The decision will be made after the first five-year period. We will develop the structure to allow for the district to continue the success. Certainly, there is much work to be done," said Assistant Commissioner Peter Contino.

Newark has a budget of \$550 million of which \$382 million comes from the state. When the state took over, there was a three-percent penalty due to excessive administrative costs. "The district will be reimbursed because the new budget proposals reflect the major changes of reorganization and efficiency," explained Contino.

"The bottom line result will be an increase in classroom services for Newark's students. To me, that is what it means to put children first," said Dr. Hall.

Tarnished Olympics

Continued from page 1

president of the Black Vendors Association of Atlanta. "This is our culture and we want to reap the economic benefits of selling it."

When asked, ACOG officials, the Mayor's office and some Housing Authorities officials either chose not to comment or paint a much rosier picture of the situation.

Rick White, the Housing Authority spokesman, insisted that all residents will be housed and Italy denies that any people are living on the streets.

While the ACOG and other Olympic and city officials plan to make this Olympics one of the most memorable, the heartbeat and devastation of losing their homes and/or business will long live in the minds and hearts of many of Atlanta's African Americans.

Be fit

Continued from page 6

Not drinking enough water is one of the most common reasons people retain water. Your body knows it needs water and will store it if you don't supply it with enough. To help with this problem, you need to drink six to eight glasses of sodium free water throughout the day. Increase your water intake gradually by two extra glasses of water a day every other day until you're drinking this amount. Make sure they are spread out during the day rather than drinking more than one glass at a time.

Increasing your potassium intake will help, but try to get it through foods like bananas, sunflower seeds or dried beans rather than supplements. Eat

ing fresh fruits and fresh vegetables will also help reduce water retention.

Use herbs for seasoning instead of salt and avoid smoked and salted snacks like corn chips, bagged popcorn and potato chips. Canned vegetables, soups, lunch meats and processed cheese foods are loaded with sodium. Eating these foods is another common reason people retain water.

Water retention can lead to serious health problems or may be a symptom of serious health problems. If diet changes and drinking water do not make a difference, you should consult your physician.

Consult your physician before starting your fitness program.

Travel tips

Continued from page 1

room for the night before. Alert the hotel to your arrival time.

✓ Check with the hotel staff to determine if debit cards are needed to use public telephones.

✓ Unless you need them during the day, leave your passport, airline ticket and other valuables in the hotel safe. There may be a small fee, but it's worth the cost for the added protection.

✓ Prior to exchanging large sums of money at your destination, compare exchange rates and service fees with the hotel cashier, bank and local foreign exchange office.

In the city

✓ Travel with a detailed map and highlight your hotel, U.S. Embassy and police station. Carry a piece of hotel stationery with you—it comes in handy when communicating with local taxi drivers.

✓ Wear a money belt or neck purse under

your clothing. If a handbag is necessary, place the shoulder strap over your head and hold the bag in front of you.

✓ Be cautious of street vendors and attention-gathering distractions. While your focus is diverted, a second person may try to steal your belongings.

✓ Travel with a good phrase book or international translator to aid in communicating.

✓ If your passport is lost or stolen, notify the local police immediately. Bring the police report, your identification and spare passport photos to the nearest U.S. Embassy for replacement. If your credit cards or travelers checks are lost or stolen, contact the issuing company immediately.

✓ Take along an inexpensive nylon duffel bag for your purchases and keep them all in one bag for ease in going through customs. Keep all receipts together.

Girl pushed

Continued from page 1

teet the identity of the child," said Detective Glenn.

The incident occurred on July 15 around 2:30 p.m. at Broad and Market Street where CICI Department store is located. At the time, officer Robert McDonald was stationed in a police kiosk located at the side of the store when the woman told him that her money had been left on a New Jersey Transit bus.

According to Glenn, when the officer turned around and began dialing NJ Transit to request help for finding the sock, he heard the sound of glass shattering. When McDonald turned around, he saw the little girl inside the CICI department store broken window surrounded by glass.

Eyewitnesses told McDonald the woman pushed her daughter through the window. Some people, however,

doubt that she pushed the girl through the window.

Presler believes she may have struck the child which caused her to fall through the window. "Parents need to step away from the situation before it gets out of hand," offered Presler.

The woman told police she had withdrawn the money from her bank earlier that day. She placed it in a sock and then inside a diaper bag. When she and her three children boarded the bus, she gave the bag to her daughter.

The woman told police she was planning a vacation to Disney World and buying vacation clothes for the family with the \$900.

Police said the woman is from the Vailsburg section of Newark. All three children are in the custody of their father.

Steele elected president

Continued from page 1

fix Paterson is to come together. Paterson will never get fixed," Jones also promised to make his first ward constituents more informed about the political process and services that they are entitled to.

Jones, a life-long resident of Paterson, described himself as a grassroots who will bring an attitude of "can do" to the city.

"Too long we have been without adequate services. The services that

are promised need to be delivered."

Although this is Jones' first elected position, he is no stranger to community affairs and politics in the city of Paterson. He has served as an officer in the Paterson NAACP, Paterson task force, Director of community initiative called S.C.O.P.E. and active in several political campaigns most recently in the election of the Rev. Alfred E. Steele to the NJ State Assembly.

His Washington bureau, and is about to lose Ed Hales Jr., the bureau's national. The departures will leave the organization without a major lobbying presence in the nation's capital in the months leading up to November's elections. "Although the NAACP has made new advances (such as getting itself on-line, etc.), their policies haven't changed. 'Voting' was the one major theme of the convention."—CHARLOTTE, NC.

News briefs

Continued from page 3

decision to move their regional office to Baltimore (the site of the group's national headquarters) from Detroit. The move was part of Muma's plan to streamline operations. Some members of the 64-member board are also upset that Muma reports only to a 17-person executive committee, instead of the full body.

The NAACP recently lost Wade Henderson, the longtime director of



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